

Program / April 1–2, 2025

MOSCOW ECONOMIC FORUM

DEMOGRAPHY: TRADITIONS AND INDUSTRIALIZATION

April 1, 2025. Tuesday

10:00–11:30

I Plenary Discussion

“New Industrialization and Population Growth”

Discussion topics:

- Do traditions exclude progress? How did the perception of tradition as something archaic and hindering development emerge in Russia? What could be the future of Russia with and without reliance on traditional values?
- How are industrial growth and demographic development interconnected? Why is demographic growth in Russia impossible without a change in economic policy? Does delay threaten Russia with extinction or backwardness?
- What measures can effectively influence demographic growth in Russia? What principles should guide a new industrialization and population growth strategy?
- What key changes await science, education, and workforce training amid demographic challenges? How can we ensure the preparation of highly skilled professionals while considering shifts in population structure?
- How can new industrialization become a driver of demographic growth in Russia? Does the development of industry and the technology sector influence the formation of stable family values?

Moderator:

Konstantin Babkin, Chairman of the Forum, President of the Association "Rosspetsmash"

Speakers:

Sergey Glazyev, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Alexander Dugin, philosopher, political scientist, and sociologist

Nikolai Kolomeytsev, First Deputy Chairman of the State Duma Committee on Labor, Social Policy, and Veterans' Affairs

Besarion Meskhi, Rector of Don State Technical University

Stanislav Naumov, Deputy Chairman of the State Duma Committee on Economic Policy

Viktor Taranin, General Director of JSC "Dashkovka," expert of the State Duma Committee on Agrarian Issues

12:00–12:30

II Plenary Discussion

“Cultural and Social Policy for National Prosperity”

Discussion topics:

- What fundamental values should be embedded in cultural and social policies to ensure the nation's prosperity?
- What should the person of the future be like, and what mechanisms of cultural policy can help shape them in alignment with national goals?
- Why do existing development programs not always achieve their intended goals, and what steps must be taken for their effective implementation?
- How can social policy stimulate demographic growth, family support, and traditional values not only materially but also ideologically?
- In the context of global competition between civilizational models, how can national identity, the Russian cultural code, and a holistic worldview be preserved and developed?

Moderator:

Robert Nigmatulin, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Scientific Director of the Shirshov Institute of Oceanology

Speakers:

Eduard Boyakov, director, producer, artistic director of the New Theatre

Alexander Galushka, Deputy Secretary of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation

Oksana Dmitrieva, Doctor of Economics, Professor, Deputy of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, Member of the Committee on Budget and Taxes

Sergey Ivanov, Executive Director, shareholder of Efko Group

Konstantin Malofeev, head of Tsargrad

Alexander Prokhanov, writer, Chairman of the Izborsk Club, Editor-in-Chief of the newspaper Zavtra

Maria Shukshina, public figure, actress, Honored Artist of the Russian Federation

14:30–16:00

Simultaneous Sessions

1. The New Global Bloc Division: Russia's Strategy

Discussion topics:

- The U.S. attempt to regain its position of global dominance and the “Peace Through Strength” doctrine: the path to peace or conflicts?
- Will the world be divided into political, military, economic blocs and macro-regions?
- What economic zones and alliances might emerge?
- What are the prospects for the countries with a non-bloc orientation? What could be the role of a renewed “Non-Aligned Movement”?

Moderator:

Dr. Andrey Kobayakov, Russian economist, political scientist, political writer, public figure, member of the MEF Board of Organizers, Director for International Connections at the MEF

Speakers:

Li Bo, Director of Strategy, Guancha.cn, China

Srdja Trifkovic, foreign affairs editor of the monthly magazine Chronicles (US) and professor of international relations at the University of Banja Luka (Republika Srpska, Bosnia-Herzegovina)

Dr. Feliciano de Sá Guimarães, Academic Director and Senior Researcher, Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI); Associate Professor at the Institute of International Relations, University of São Paulo

Bal Krishan Sharma, Major General (Retd), Director General of the United Service Institution of India (USI)

Sergey Glazyev, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Dmitri Golubovsky, financial and political expert, investment advisor, political writer

2. Modern Cultural Strategies in Russia and Abroad

Discussion topics:

- What is cultural strategy? Is it a consequence or a cause of historical processes?
- What has shaped us? Current cultural strategies of the late 20th – early 21st centuries.
- The cultural market and new anthropology: Global vs. Local.
- Russia's place in the global cultural context: past, present, and future.

Moderator:

Eduard Boyakov, Director, Producer, Artistic Director of the New Theater

Speakers:

Evgeny Primakov, Head of the Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States Affairs, Russian journalist, statesman, politician, and public figure

Alexander Kuzin, head of One Moscow company, entrepreneur, real estate expert, blogger

Nikita Lukinsky, graphic designer, author of the Telegram channel Unezhit dushu, curator and exhibition designer at Zaryadye Park

Elena Manyenan, hotelier and restaurateur, expert in micro and small business development, author of legendary hospitality projects

Oksana Konyshcheva, head of the Rosatom Culture Territory program

Alexander Kurnikov, developer of landmark real estate projects

Nastassya Khrushchyova, pianist, composer, and musicologist

4. Is It Time to Nationalize the Central Bank of Russia?

Discussion topics:

— Why does the Central Bank, despite having vast resources, not use them for actively stimulating the economy and supporting citizens?

— How does the autonomy of the Central Bank affect Russia's financial sovereignty, and is it time for the state to take full control of its activities?

— What specific mechanisms for the nationalization of the Central Bank can be implemented? What legal and economic frameworks are necessary to carry out such a decision?

— How would the potential nationalization of the Central Bank impact Russia's position in the international banking system, and what consequences could it have for international transactions?

Moderator:

Vladimir Boglaev, General Director of Cherepovets Foundry and Mechanical Plant JSC

Speakers:

Abel Aganbegyan, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Sergey Glazyev, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Anatoly Wasserman, Member of the State Duma Committee on Education

Nikita Komarov, Head of External Communications at the Tsargrad Institute

Yuri Pronko, Economic Analyst, Journalist, TV Host at Tsargrad Channel

Oleg Sukharev, Russian Economist, Chief Researcher at the Institute of Economics of the Russian Academy of Sciences

4. Russia's Soft Power: What Is It?

Discussion topics:

- How can Russia's soft power be characterized? How does it differ from the approaches of other countries, such as the USA or China?
- What key elements form the foundation of Russian soft power?
- Do Western sanctions affect Russia's ability to utilize soft power? Could they strengthen its internal consolidation?
- How effective is Russia's soft power compared to the Soviet period?
- Which countries can be considered successful recipients of Russian soft power?
- What are the main challenges facing Russia's soft power amid geopolitical tensions?

Moderator:

Alexey Lapushkin, Deputy Chairman of the LDPR Economic Council – Executive Secretary

Speakers:

Vitaly Averyanov, Deputy Chairman of the Izborsk Club, Director of the Institute of Dynamic Conservatism

Viktor Bout, Deputy of the Legislative Assembly of the Ulyanovsk Region

Maxim Kalashnikov, Futurist Writer, Permanent Expert of the Izborsk Club

Andrey Parshev, economist, political writer

16:30–18:00

Simultaneous Sessions

5. Youth in Moscow's Industry and Science

Moderator:

Maria Voropaeva, Deputy of the Moscow City Duma, Deputy Chair of the Commission on Economic and Social Policy

6. Food Security: Russia's Role in the World (In collaboration with Timiryazev Academy – 160th Anniversary)

Discussion topics:

- What is Russia's role in global food security, and what opportunities exist to strengthen its position?
- What methods are being used to diminish Russia's role in global food security, and how can these challenges be countered?
- How do geopolitical and economic changes worldwide impact the system of support for producers? What kind of support do agricultural producers need in the current conditions?

Moderators:

Igor Abakumov, Founder of the weekly publication and media group Krestyanskie Vedomosti
 Ivan Ushachev, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Scientific Director of the All-Russian Research Institute of Agricultural Economics

Speakers:

Oleg Kobayakov, Diplomat, Director of the Liaison Office with the Russian Federation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
 Arkady Zlochevsky, President of the Russian Grain Union
 Lyudmila Orlova, President of the "National Movement for Conservation Agriculture"
 Vyacheslav Pronin, Deputy Director of the Rosspetsmash Association
 Kristina Romanovskaya, CEO of Lazarevskoye Agroholding
 Jian Lian, Investment Partner at Beijing Hengce, Expert in Industry, Manufacturing, and Geopolitics

7. Family as the Foundation of Economy, Culture, and Social Structure

Discussion topics:

- Demography and economy – which one is the chicken, and which is the egg?
- Why has economic growth and progress devastated demographics?
- What type of social capital forms the basis of a healthy economy: bonding capital (network connections) or bridging capital (trust-based relationships)?
- Why does the state need the family, and why does the family need the state?

Moderator:

Oleg Stepanov, Co-founder of the "Russia 2062" project and ANO "Big Land"

Speakers:

Boris Akimov, Co-founder of the "Russia 2062" project, ANO "Big Land," Founder of the "Happy People" community in the Yaroslavl region and the LavkaLavka farmers' cooperative
 Oksana Osinina, Co-founder of ANO "Guardians of National Heritage" and OD "Living Homes"
 Sergey Dzyuba, Professor at the Department of Applied Economics, School of Economics and Management, Far Eastern Federal University

Sergey Chesnokov, Head of the All-Russian Public Project "Demographic Platform.RF," Director of the Scientific and Applied Center "Demographic Strategies" at the Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation

8. Macroeconomics: Russia and the World. Investment and Monetary Efficiency

Presentation of the book "Macroeconomics: Russia and the World, 1996–2024"

Discussion topics:

- What social programs can increase the birth rate and reduce mortality in Russia?
- How can regional development be stimulated? What structural reforms in tax and budget policy are necessary to reduce the economic gap between Russian regions? What measures should be taken to reduce population outflow from depressed regions?
- How can migration be effectively managed to compensate for Russia's demographic crisis? What mechanisms can be used for the successful integration of migrants?

Moderators:

Robert Nigmatulin, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Scientific Director of the Shirshov Institute of Oceanology

Bulat Nigmatulin, General Director of the Institute for Energy Problems

Cultural Program

Pianist Nastassia Khrushchova's Concert "Russian Dead Ends"

"Russian Dead Ends" is a cycle about beauty, a pianist's reflections on 19th-century music, her love declaration to Tchaikovsky, and immersion in endless harmonic turns.

Her music is recognizable and unique, with an unusual sound that can be sharp and exhilarating, but most importantly, it is always an original, personal language. As Nastassia herself admits: "In dead ends, infinity is expressed as a form — the repetition of patterns creates this dead-end quality. These 'dead ends' are used in the best possible sense of the word. They are not literal dead ends, but more like mazes of Beauty."

Nastassia Khrushchova is a renowned St. Petersburg pianist, composer, and musicologist.

April 2, 2025. Wednesday

10:00–12:00

III Plenary Discussion “A Changing World: Russia’s Strategy”

Discussion topics:

- Ideological contours of the changing world. New ethics versus traditionalism. The struggle between ideologies and its impact on demographics.
- The potential of countries and alliances. What influences the ability of countries to form alliances and the potential of these alliances (economy, ideology, country positions)?
- Russia’s strategy in the near, medium, and long-term. How will Russia's strategy change after the completion of the Special Military Operation (SMO)?
- WHO, WTO, Paris Agreements, etc. How are countries' relations with existing institutions changing, and what alternatives can Russia offer in response?

Moderator:

Ivan Timofeev, General Director of the Russian International Affairs Council

Speakers:

Leonid Slutsky, Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

Alexandar Vulin, Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia

Sergey Krikalev, pilot-cosmonaut, Hero of the Soviet Union, Hero of the Russian Federation

Dr. Eric Li, Founder and Chairman of Guancha.cn

Nabi Sonboli, senior expert at the Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS), Iran

Dr. Jan Čarnogurský, Slovak politician and statesman, former Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic (1991–1992), Chairman of Slovak-Russian association

Bal Krishan Sharma, Major General (Retd), Director General of the United Service Institution of India (USI)

12:30–14:00

Simultaneous Sessions

9. The Near and Middle East in a Changing World

Discussion topics:

- In which directions is Turkey’s foreign policy developing amid the growing competition between the West, Russia, and Middle Eastern countries, and what long-term consequences might this have for regional stability?

- How profound are the changes brought about by the normalization of relations between Arab countries and Israel, and will this process lead to the formation of new alliances or, conversely, to new conflicts?
- What diplomatic and strategic consequences could the war in Gaza and the escalation of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict have for the future of countries in the region?
- What strategic objectives is Iran pursuing in the current geopolitical environment, and how does its foreign policy reflect the desire to strengthen its influence both in the region and beyond?

Moderator:

Vladimir Avatkov, Russian Turkologist, Head of the Department of the Near and Post-Soviet East at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IORAN), Professor at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Member of the Council under the President of the Russian Federation for Interethnic Relations

Speakers:

Ilya Baskakov, Junior Researcher, Department of the Near and Post-Soviet East at IORAN

Dmitry Evstafiev, Professor at the Institute of Media, Faculty of Creative Industries, National Research University Higher School of Economics

Danila Krylov, Researcher, Department of the Near and Post-Soviet East at IORAN

Alexey Kuznetsov, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Director of IORAN

Dina Malysheva, Senior Researcher at the Center for Post-Soviet Studies, Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russian Academy of Sciences

Ivan Rusanov, Senior Laboratory Assistant, Department of the Near and Post-Soviet East at IORAN

10. Misconceptions in Economics: How to Overcome Them and Avoid Irreversible Consequences for the Country's Development

Discussion topics:

- Myths about inflation. Should inflation targeting really be the core of economic policy?
- Myths about the Bank of Russia. Is the Central Bank of Russia independent, and can this not be changed?
- Myths about taxes. Does raising taxes lead to an increase in regional budgets? Are taxes in Russia the lowest?
- Myths about natural monopolies. Can natural monopolies be private, with their tariffs regulated by the market?
- Myths about exports. Is it beneficial for the country to export unprocessed raw materials?

Moderators:

Konstantin Babkin, Chairman of the Forum, President of the "Rosspetsmash" Association
Vladimir Gamza, Chairman of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Financial, Industrial, and Investment Policy

Speakers:

Mikhail Goncharov, Founder and Managing Director of the Teremok restaurant chain
Valentin Katasonov, Chairman of the Russian Economic Society named after S.F. Sharapov, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Economic Sciences and Entrepreneurship
Vasily Koltashov, Director of the Institute of the New Society, Economist
Mikhail Remizov, President of the Institute for National Strategy
Mikhail Eskindarov, President of the Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation
Boris Martsinkevich, Editor-in-Chief of the analytical journal Geoenergetics.info

11. Return to Space: Russia's Goals

Discussion topics:

- What values and worldview principles can be derived from the philosophy of Cosmism for the modern development of the country? Can the space future unite Russian society in the same way it did during the era of the first flights?
- What role will space play in the future distribution of global influence?
- Which international space alliances are beneficial for Russia? Should Russia compete or cooperate with other powers?
- Can Russia offer the world an alternative concept of the space future? What contribution can Russia make to the exploration of the Moon, Mars, and deep space?

Moderator:

Sergey Pereslegin, Russian historian, futurist, geopolitical analyst

Speakers:

Vladimir Koshlakov, General Director of JSC SSC "Keldysh Center"
Sergey Krikalev, pilot-cosmonaut, Hero of the Soviet Union, Hero of the Russian Federation
Anton Pervushin, Russian science fiction writer, journalist, and historian of cosmonautics
Vyacheslav Rybakov, writer, historian-orientalist, screenwriter, and political writer
Artyom Shadrin, General Director of the Autonomous Non-Profit Organization National Agency for Qualification Development

12. Life Strategy Against Extinction and Depopulation: The Russian Response to Humanity's Demographic Challenge

Moderator:

Yury Kroupnov, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Institute for Demography, Migration, and Regional Development

Speakers:

Igor Budanov, Head of the Laboratory at the Institute of Economic Forecasting of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Aleksei Gornaev, TV host at "Aktsent TV," founder of a Family Homestead in the "Kovcheg" Family Homestead Settlement (Kaluga Region)

Yuri Gromyko, Director of the E.L. Schiffer Institute for Advanced Studies, Chairman of the Russian Section of the Science and Innovation Council of the Russia-China Committee for Friendship, Peace, and Development

Viktoria Kasheikova, Catechist, Project Leader, and Author of the Telegram Channel "Tsarskaya Semya"

Sergey Lakovsky, General Director of JSC "BRICS Park" (Ulyanovsk), Founder of the Real Estate Development Projects "Selo Uspenskoye," "BRICS Park," and "Russian Shore"

Yulia Morodina, Head of ANBO "Union of Large Families of the Mostovsky District 'Blagost'," Member of the Public Chamber of the Mostovsky District, Member of the Union of Orthodox Women and the Union of Women of Russia, Volunteer

Inga Yumasheva, Head of the Information Department of the Patriarchal Commission on Family, Motherhood, and Childhood Protection, President of the Charity Foundation for the Preservation and Protection of Traditional Spiritual and Moral Values "Family - Country - World"

15:00–16:30

Simultaneous Sessions

13. Civilizational Identity: Traditions and the Future

Discussion topics:

- How do countries today define their civilizational identity in a multipolar world?
- Civilizational Identity of the Russian World.
- Demographic issues and civilizational identity
- Conflict of identities or harmonious diversity? The role of civilizational identity in the balance of power in the world

Moderator:

Marine Voskanyan, Political writer, Political Scientist, Coordinator for International Affairs at the MEF

Speakers:

Boris Mezhuev, philosopher, political scientist, Editor-in-Chief of the website "Russian Idea," Associate Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy of Lomonosov Moscow State University, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Scientific Information for Social Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences (INION RAS)

Alexander von Bismarck, German entrepreneur, public figure, Founder of the Russian-German public project "Bismarck Dialogue"

Dr. Wang Xianhua, Dean for the School of Humanities at the Shanghai University of Economics and Finance

Dr. Feliciano de Sá Guimarães, Academic Director and Senior Researcher, Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI); Associate Professor at the Institute of International Relations, University of São Paulo

Dr. Yitina Gebre Mamo, Multilateral Affairs Research Director General at the Institute of Foreign Affairs (IFA), Ethiopia

Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, the Executive and Academic Head of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi

14. Engineering in 2025: Challenges or Solutions?

Discussion topics:

- Made in Russia. Examples of achievements by domestic producers despite the current economic situation.
- Challenges of rising production costs. Changes in product prices today.
- Challenges of falling demand. How are the competitiveness of producers and the purchasing power of consumers affected by rising prices?
- Challenges of credit policy. Can irreversible changes in industries begin if the key interest rate remains unjustifiably high?
- Challenges of import substitution. Why, despite the government's efforts, has the production of many critically important components not yet started in the country?
- Signs of positive changes. What signals are Russian machine builders expecting from the government?

Moderator:

Alla Elizarova, Director of the "Rosspetsmash" Association

Speakers:

Alexander Vinokurov, Founder of "VBK RUS" LLC

Evgeny Gorely, General Director of "DST-Ural" LLC

Alexander Dmitriev, General Director of the "Cheboksary Power Units Plant"

Mikhail Ivanov, Founder of "Ok-Engineering"

Vyacheslav Pronin, Head of the Technical Regulation Committee, "Rosspetsmash" Association

Sergey Rumyantsev, Director of the Engineering Development Center at the Yaroslavl State Technical University

Jian Lian, Investment Partner at Beijing Hengce, Expert in Industry, Manufacturing, and Geopolitics

15. EAEU, BRICS vs WTO: New Alliances and New Rules for the World

Discussion topics:

— How can the new tools of BRICS and the EAEU (mechanism for subsidizing cooperation in the EAEU, BRICS Development Bank, Grain Exchange, Partnership for the New Industrial Revolution, BRICS (Re)Insurance, etc.) be used in the interests of industrial development in Russia and the EAEU member states?

— Opportunities for promoting Eurasian exports and launching joint projects of EAEU enterprises with partners from friendly countries (EAEU+, BRICS, SCO) — industrial needs, possible support measures at the Union and member state levels.

— The negotiation mechanism on WTO issues within BRICS — how actively is it being used today, what initiatives are under consideration, and has it helped strengthen the positions of participating countries within the WTO?

— The importance of soft power — what attractive ideas and directions can new integration unions offer to modern individuals? What could serve as a mouthpiece (education, culture, joint ventures, etc.)?

Moderator:

Anastasia Astakhova, Head of the Project Office for EAEU countries' Chamber of Commerce and Industry to support cooperation, Advisor to the President of the Russian Association of Manufacturers of Specialized Equipment and Machinery "Rosspetsmash"

Speakers:

Elena Galushko, General Director of "Trading House BRICS ES-M," Chair of the Commission on Industrial Tourism at the Committee for Entrepreneurship in the Tourism Sector of the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Vicente Barrientos, President of BRICS Center & BRICS Business Club

Boris Mushchinsky, First Deputy Commercial Director of OJSC "Minsk Automobile Plant"

Victoria Panova, Head of the "Expert Council on Russia's Participation in BRICS" Center, Vice-Rector of the National Research University "Higher School of Economics," Sherpa of the Russian Federation in the "Women's Twenty" (W20)

Vladimir Padalko, Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Russia

Yuri Shevtsov, Belarusian international relations scholar, historian, political scientist, member of the expert group under the Head of the Eurasian Economic Commission

16. New Territories, Returning Home

Discussion topics:

- What are the key challenges in integrating new territories into Russia's socio-economic system?
- What role does cultural and historical identity play in integrating new territories into the Russian World?
- What state policy tools can help strengthen local residents' trust in Russian government institutions?
- What role should the media and educational programs play in the integration process?
- How can we counteract informational and cultural resistance from external forces?

Moderator:

Dmitry Borisenko, journalist, director, and creator of the online platform Glavred Borisenko

Speakers:

Alexander Voskoboynikov, author of the online resource "Public Odessa Television"

Vladislav Panov, Head of the 2nd Department of the Directorate for Agitation and Propaganda of the Main Military-Political Directorate of the Russian Ministry of Defense

Dmitry Raevsky, political scientist, military analyst, co-founder of the "Valkyrie" Design Bureau for UAV assembly

17:00–18:30

Final Plenary Discussion. Summing Up the Forum Results

Moderator:

Konstantin Babkin, Chairman of the Forum, President of the Rosspetsmash Association